

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-FIRST SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2006

385M0685

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1003

Introduced by: Representatives Buckingham, Boomgarden, Bradford, Brunner, Cutler, Davis, Deadrick, Dennert, Dykstra, Elliott, Faehn, Frost, Fryslie, Garnos, Gassman, Gillespie, Glenski, Glover, Hackl, Haley, Halverson, Hanks, Hargens, Haverly, Heineman, Hills, Howie, Hunhoff, Hunt, Jensen, Jerke, Klaudt, Koistinen, Kraus, Krebs, Kroger, Lange, McCoy, McLaughlin, Michels, Miles, Murschel, Nelson, Novstrup, O'Brien, Olson (Ryan), Pederson (Gordon), Peters, Putnam, Rausch, Rave, Rhoden, Roberts, Rounds, Schafer, Sebert, Sigdestad, Street, Thompson, Tidemann, Tornow, Turbiville, Valandra, Van Etten, Van Norman, Vehle, Weems, Wick, and Willadsen and Senators Duniphan, Abdallah, Adelstein, Apa, Bartling, Bogue, Broderick, Dempster, Duenwald, Earley, Gant, Gray, Greenfield, Hansen (Tom), Hanson (Gary), Hundstad, Kelly, Kloucek, Knudson, Koetzle, Kooistra, Koskan, Lintz, McCracken, McNenny, Moore, Napoli, Nesselhuf, Olson (Ed), Peterson (Jim), Schoenbeck, Smidt, Sutton (Dan), Sutton (Duane), and Two Bulls

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Recognizing the efforts of United States Senator Tim
2 Johnson, United States Senator John Thune, United States Representative Stephanie
3 Herseth, Governor M. Michael Rounds and the preparedness of the Rapid City area's
4 Ellsworth Task Force and the Black Hills area's government and business leaders for their
5 outstanding achievement in retaining Ellsworth Air Force Base as a vital component of our
6 nation's defenses.

7 WHEREAS, the demonstrated leadership of Senator Tim Johnson, Senator John Thune,
8 Representative Stephanie Herseth, Governor M. Michael Rounds and local leaders was
9 instrumental in the retention of Ellsworth Air Force Base as a vital component of not only our



1 nation's defenses but the economic and social fabric of western South Dakota's Black Hills; and

2 WHEREAS, the value of Ellsworth's geographically centered location and its capabilities
3 as demonstrated by its assigned missions and personnel over decades of conflicts extending
4 throughout World War II, an enduring cold war spanning over forty-five years, the Korean
5 Conflict, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, other armed conflicts in southwest Asia, the NATO
6 liberation of Kosovo, and most recently in our nation's continuing global war on terror in the
7 Afghanistan and Iraq theaters of operation; and

8 WHEREAS, South Dakota's congressional delegation and state and local leaders have been
9 instrumental in the transformation of the base's facilities and aircraft into a fully trained and
10 capable twenty-first century strike capability, able to launch B-1B aircraft from Ellsworth to any
11 worldwide location and directly engage the enemy with the most advanced precision weapons
12 using unprecedented timing and accuracy; and

13 WHEREAS, the entire state of South Dakota was focused on their actions and the results
14 of their efforts to retain Ellsworth Air Force Base throughout the summer of 2005 and watched
15 with the greatest levels of concern and apprehension as the Base Closure and Realignment
16 Commission voted 8 to 1 to retain Ellsworth; and

17 WHEREAS, their untiring efforts, unified support and dedication to work with the Base
18 Closure and Realignment Commission commissioners and their distinctive presence during the
19 commission's final deliberations brought very highly regarded national attention to the true spirit
20 and character of the People of South Dakota:

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-
22 first Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that their efforts
23 be recognized as a significant milestone in support of our nation's defense mission and a
24 benchmark of success deserving emulation throughout the future of the State of South Dakota.